

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 122 - HB 1501

April 27, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Creates the *School Turnaround Pilot Program Act*. Requires the Department of Education (DOE) to develop a five-year school turnaround program and select 20 schools that are in need of intervention for participation, beginning with the 2021-22 school year.

Requires 10 local boards of education to establish turnaround committees on or before September 15th, 2021, and requires the turnaround committee to contract with an independent school turnaround expert, certified by DOE, for the development of a school turnaround plan. Requires the school turnaround committees to submit the recommended school turnaround plan to the local board of education by March 21st, 2021.

Requires DOE to provide grants to local boards of education with schools in need of an intervention that are assigned to the school turnaround group to facilitate the implementation of interventions and fund contracts with independent school turnaround experts. Requires DOE to submit a report evaluating the progress of the school turnaround pilot program to the Education Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives by August 1st following the end of each school year in which the pilot program is in effect and at the end of the pilot program.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures - \$2,500,000/Each FY21-22 through FY25-26

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (006814, 007837): Amendment 006814 deletes all language after the enacting clause and rewrites the bill such that the only substantive changes are to: (1) require DOE to select 10 priority schools to participate in the pilot program; (2) change from August 1st to October 1st, the required date by which DOE must submit a report evaluating the progress of the school turnaround pilot program; (3) require DOE to identify priority schools in need of intervention to participate in the pilot program by September 1st, 2021; (4) change from September 15th to September 30th 2021, the date by which a local board of education for a participating priority school must establish a school turnaround committee; (5) change, from October 15th to November 30th, the date by which the local board of education shall contract with an independent school turnaround expert; and (6) change the timeframe for payment of school turnaround experts through contracts.

Amendment 007837 reduces the number of schools allowed to participate in the program to five and further reduces the length of the program to three years instead of five years.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

Increase State Expenditures - \$1,250,000/Each FY21-22 through FY23-24

Other Fiscal Impact – Federal funds through the Department of Education may be available for funding of this program. The extent and timing of federal funding available is unknown.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The proposed legislation requires DOE to identify schools in need of intervention, develop a school turnaround program, and monitor schools in need of intervention and progress on the school turnaround plan for a period of five years. DOE will select five schools for the school turnaround pilot program that are diverse geographically and diverse in grade levels
- DOE will provide grants to facilitate the implementation of school turnaround plans and each grant award will be \$250,000. The recurring increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$1,250,000 in each year FY21-22 through FY23-24 (\$250,000 x 5 schools).
- Federal funding through the Department of Education may be available for this purpose. The extent and timing of any federal funds is unknown.
- The proposed legislation requires local boards of education to create a turnaround committee; it is estimated that the administrative costs related the committee and its activities would result in a mandatory recurring increase in local expenditures of \$25,000 (\$5,000 per school x 5 schools) in FY21-22 through FY23-24. However, such expenditures are assumed to be funded with the state grants to local boards of education.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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